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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/676,364	09/29/2000	John D. Roper	MSFT-0207/150500.1	2193

7590 06/28/2005

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EXAMINER

CAMPBELL, JOSHUA D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2178

DATE MAILED: 06/28/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Supplemental Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/676,364

Examiner

Joshua D Campbell

Applicant(s)

ROPER ET AL.

Art Unit

2179

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to _____.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 3-5,7-11,14-16,18-22,24-26 and 28-32.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Heather R. Herndon
HEATHER R. HERNDON
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Jerome Schaefer on 06/16/2005.

24. (Currently Amended by the Examiner) A method of generating a Web page having a number of display items from different sources located in at least some of N available display slots of the Web page, ~~the Web page having been generated in accordance with the following method:~~

(a) defining for each source of display items, a candidate set of items to be displayed;

(b) selecting display items from a pool of all candidate sets of display items in a manner that equalizes a probability that display items of a first candidate set from a first source are selected in relation to display items of a second candidate set from a second source, wherein the display items of the first candidate set and the second candidate set are unequal in number;

(c) inserting up to N of the selected items in the available display slots on the Web page;

(d) defining a plurality of different levels of source participation, each source being associated with one level and each level having one or more sources associated with it;

(e) performing (a) through (c) separately for the sources at each level of participation, thereby selecting a number of display items at each level; and

(f) selecting a predefined number of display items from said selected items at each level and assigning the predefined number of display items of each level to respective display slots on the Web page in a manner that gives preference to one level of source participation relative to another.

25. (Currently Amended by the Examiner) The method ~~Web page~~ recited in claim 24, wherein if there are not enough display items at a given level to select said predefined number of display items, the method of generating the Web page further comprises assigning display slots that otherwise would have been assigned to the display items of that level instead to the display items at the highest other level of participation having available items to fill those slots.

26. (Currently Amended by the Examiner) The method ~~Web page~~ recited in claim 24, wherein if there are not enough display items among all of the levels of source participation to fill the available display slots on the Web page, the method of generating the Web page further comprises filling the unfilled display slots with display items selected from sources outside of said predefined levels of source participation.

28. (Currently Amended by the Examiner) The method ~~Web page~~ recited in claim 24 2-3, wherein (b) further comprises (b I) randomly selecting one of the candidate sets,

(b2) selecting one item from the selected candidate set, (b3) reducing a count of the display items of the selected candidate set by one and removing that candidate set from further consideration when the count reaches zero; and (b4) repeating (b 1) through (63) until a desired number of display items have been selected.

29. (Currently Amended by the Examiner) The method ~~Web page~~ recited in claim 28, wherein (b2) comprises randomly selecting one item from the selected candidate set.

30. (Currently Amended by the Examiner) The method ~~Web page~~ recited in claim 28, wherein (b2) comprises selecting one item from the selected candidate set in accordance with a weighting of items applied to the selected candidate set.

31. (Currently Amended by the Examiner) The method ~~Web page~~ recited in claim 30, wherein (a) comprises defining, for each source of display items, a candidate set of items to be displayed, each candidate set of items having at least a first subset and a second subset, each subset having a count associated therewith of the number of display items in that subset, and wherein (b2) and (b3) are performed first on the first subset of display items until the count for that subset reaches zero, and then on the second subset, the candidate set being removed from further consideration only after the counts of both subsets reach zero.

32. (Currently Amended by the Examiner) The method ~~Web page~~ recited in claim 31, wherein each candidate set comprises two or more subsets, and wherein (b2) and (b3) are performed, in turn, on each successive subset until the counts of all of the


subsets reach zero.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joshua D Campbell whose telephone number is (571) 272-4133. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:00 AM - 4:30 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Heather Herndon can be reached on (571) 272-4136. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JDC
June 16, 2005


HEATHER R. HERNDON
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